

Claims

1. A method for creating a dialog box visually differentiable from a displayed background, the method comprising:

5 receiving a command to create the dialog box, the command including a selected background color of the dialog box configured to have a value;

drawing a dialog box boundary using a reserved color associated with a reserved color value, the reserved color being a color reserved by an operating system of a platform to be used by the operating system only; and

10 drawing a dialog box background using the value of the selected background color,

wherein using the reserved color to draw the dialog box boundary is configured to visually differentiate the dialog box from the displayed background.

15 2. A method for creating a dialog box visually differentiable from a displayed background as recited in claim 1, wherein drawing a dialog box background using the selected background color value includes:

determining whether the value for the selected background color is equivalent to one of the reserved color value and a cross-platform compatible color value, the

20 determining including,

mapping the value of the selected background color to a previously assigned cross-platform compatible color value when the selected background color value is equivalent to the reserved color value; and

mapping the value of the selected background color to a corresponding cross-platform compatible color value when the selected background color value is equivalent to the cross-platform compatible color value.

5 3. A method for creating a dialog box visually differentiable from a displayed background as recited in claim 1, wherein the dialog box is displayed using a graphic image.

10 4. A method for creating a dialog box visually differentiable from a displayed background as recited in claim 1, wherein the dialog box boundary is configured to include one of a slider, a border, text, a button, and a scroll bar.

15 5. A method for creating a dialog box visually differentiable from a displayed background as recited in claim 4, wherein the dialog box boundary is a border.

 6. A method for creating a dialog box visually differentiable from a displayed background as recited in claim 5, wherein the border is beveled.

20 7. A method for creating a dialog box visually differentiable a displayed background on a display system as recited in claim 1, wherein the dialog box is a Java-based dialog box.

 8. A method for selecting colors to draw a dialog box having a visually differentiable boundary, the method comprising:

determining whether one of a dialog box boundary, a dialog box background, and a dialog box component is being drawn, the determining including,

selecting a reserved color when drawing the dialog box boundary by bypassing a mapping of the reserved color to a previously assigned cross-platform compatible color;

selecting a cross-platform compatible color when drawing the dialog box background; and

selecting a cross-platform compatible color when drawing the component contained within the dialog box,

wherein the bypassing the mapping of the reserved color to a previously assigned cross-platform compatible color is configured to draw a dialog box having a differentiable boundary.

9. A method for selecting colors to draw a dialog box having a visually differentiable boundary as recited in claim 8, wherein the reserved color is a color reserved by an operating system of a platform to only be used by one of the operating system and underlying software.

10. A method for selecting colors to draw a dialog box having a visually differentiable boundary as recited in claim 8, wherein selecting a cross-platform compatible color when drawing the dialog box background includes:

using a value of the selected background color to map the selected background to a previously assigned cross-platform compatible color when the value of the selected background color is equivalent to a reserved color value; and

using the value of the selected background color to map the selected background color value to a corresponding cross-platform compatible color when the value of the selected background color is equivalent to a cross-platform compatible color value.

5 11. A method for selecting colors to draw a dialog box having a visually differentiable boundary as recited in claim 8, wherein the dialog box is one of a JAVA-based dialog box, a C-based dialog box, and a C++-based dialog box.

10 12. A method for selecting colors to draw a dialog box having a visually differentiable boundary as recited in claim 8, wherein the dialog box is displayed using a graphic image.

15 13. A method for selecting colors to draw a dialog box having a visually differentiable boundary as recited in claim 8, wherein the colors selected to draw the dialog box boundary, dialog box background, and components contained within the dialog box are processed by a controller.

20 14. A method for selecting colors to draw a dialog box having a visually differentiable boundary as recited in claim 13, wherein the controller is integrated in a graphics card.

 15. A method for generating dialog box graphical user interfaces (GUIs) that are presented over an underlying background image, comprising:

 receiving a command to generate a dialog box;

if a boundary element of the dialog box is to be generated, the method includes,
implementing a reserved color for the generation, the reserved color not
being available for use in generating graphical context of background color of the dialog
box.

5

16. A method for generating dialog box graphical user interfaces (GUIs) that
are presented over an underlying background image as recited in claim 15, further
comprising:

if a background element of the dialog box is to be generated, the method
10 includes,
implementing a cross-platform compatible color for the generation.

17. A method for generating dialog box graphical user interfaces (GUIs) that
are presented over an underlying background image as recited in claim 15, wherein the
15 boundary element is configured to include one of a slider, a border, text, a button, and a
scroll bar.

18. A method for generating dialog box graphical user interfaces (GUIs) that
are presented over an underlying background image as recited in claim 17, wherein the
20 boundary element is a border.

19. A method for generating dialog box graphical user interfaces (GUIs) that
are presented over an underlying background image as recited in claim 18, wherein the
border is beveled.

20. A method for generating dialog box graphical user interfaces (GUIs) that are presented over an underlying background image as recited in claim 15, wherein the dialog box is one of a JAVA-based dialog box, a C-based dialog box, and a C++-based
5 dialog box.

0903003 051401
"04150" 00000000